



Southern California's wildfires have forced countless residents and their pets to evacuate, leaving many in urgent need of help. Across the region, animal rescue groups are stepping up, offering critical care and safe shelter to hundreds of animals impacted by the ongoing disaster.

Humane Groups Offer Lifelines to Pets in Crisis

Rescue organizations are stepping in to care for animals ranging from cats and dogs to horses, birds, and tortoises. These pets face temporary displacement as their owners seek refuge in evacuation centers, hotels, or other accommodations that often don't allow animals. Some of the rescued pets suffer from burns, smoke inhalation, or dehydration.

Pasadena Humane Provides Vital Care

[Pasadena Humane](https://meowkats.com), a prominent animal resource center in Pasadena, has taken in over 400 animals since the wildfires began. "We've seen animals with burned paws, singed whiskers, and dehydration," said Dia DuVernet, president and CEO of Pasadena Humane. The center's veterinary intensive care unit is treating the most severely injured pets, including those requiring oxygen therapy.

Pasadena Humane has also accommodated pets brought in by desperate owners. In one instance, a pony was walked down from an affected area to the shelter, where it received care before being transported to an equestrian center.



spcaLA Extends Support

At the [Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Los Angeles \(spcaLA\)](#), staff members are working tirelessly to care for pets displaced by the fires. About 50 animals, including a 30-year-old parrot named Ducky, are currently under their care. Ducky, known for saying phrases like “I’m a pretty birdie,” has brought smiles to the staff during this challenging time.

“When animals arrive, they are examined by a veterinarian and provided with blankets, toys, and treats to help them feel safe,” said Ana Bustilloz, spcaLA’s director of communications and marketing.

Wildfires’ Impact on Pets

Wildfires pose significant risks to animals, especially those with respiratory or cardiovascular conditions. The [American Veterinary Medical Association](#) advises pet owners to keep pets indoors when air quality is poor and to prepare an evacuation kit with essentials like food, water, and a labeled carrier.

Rescue organizations are limiting outdoor time for animals to minimize their exposure to smoky air. The [Los Angeles Equestrian Center](#) in Burbank, which normally houses 500 horses, has taken in an additional 200 to 300 animals, including a 200-pound pet pig named Oliver.

Overwhelming Community Support

The outpouring of donations has been tremendous. Rescue groups have received supplies such as hay, blankets, and pet food. Pasadena Humane now prioritizes monetary donations



to create more space for incoming animals.

A Glimmer of Hope Amid the Chaos

As [evacuation](#) orders lift, many pet owners are reuniting with their beloved animals. “Seeing families reconnect with their pets has been a bright spot in an otherwise difficult time,” Bustilloz shared.

These humane groups remain committed to their mission of providing safety and care for animals in need. Their efforts offer hope and relief to both pets and their owners as they navigate the challenges of recovery.

For more information on how you can help, visit [Pasadena Humane](#) or [spcaLA](#).

More information:

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/california-rescue-groups-open-doors-pets-burns-rcna187184>

<https://www.newsweek.com/fact-check-videos-cat-rescued-california-wildfires-misleading-2012663>

<https://news.sky.com/story/los-angeles-fire-animal-rescue-groups-open-their-doors-to-pets-as-owners-flee-the-flames-13286994>



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